

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 would be pending in the application after this amendment. Amendments of claims is not to be considered in any way an indication of applicant's position on the merits of the amended, cancelled, and/or withdrawn claims.

During the June 3, 2004 Examiner's interview with Examiner Narayanaswamy and Examiner Maung, applicant's representative discussed U.S. Patent No. 5,587,800 to Miyazaki (the "Miyazaki reference"). Most of the arguments presented during the interview were previously submitted in his January 13, 2004 Amendment. Those arguments are incorporated herein by reference. To reduce repetition, applicant is only presenting the basic points discussed during the interview.

The Miyazaki reference is directed to a fast-output image processing method and apparatus that employ an outline font. An outline font is one in which the outline of each character is defined by a mathematical formula, making the font scalable to any size. Main features of the outline font include easiness of character processing and fineness of the generated character pattern. However, there is a drawback that the time required to generate a character pattern employing the outline font is longer than that taken in a method employing a dotted pattern font. The Miyazaki reference sets forth a page printer that receives outline data from a host computer and stores the data received in a printer's RAM before printing output. It is significant that before any of the steps shown in FIG. 4 are taken, all relevant data is transferred from the host computer to the Miyazaki printer's page buffer memory. At column 4, lines 9-11, Miyazaki specifically sets forth that "The processing of the flowcharts of FIGS. 4 to 6 start when printing data for one page is received and stored in the page buffer memory 104." All the steps performed in FIGS. 4 to 6, therefore, must be performed in the Miyazaki printer. Upon mapping of the input code data, the Miyazaki device then examines whether the necessary pattern is stored in a cache memory or not, and if it is not stored, registers the pattern. As for form data, the Miyazaki device similarly performs pattern registration to a cache memory for form character. The pattern registration is repeated until data for one page is mapped. In other words, the Miyazaki device increases speed

by not generating the pattern if it is found in memory. The Miyazaki device does not increase speed by reducing data transfer.

The present invention increases speed by reducing data transfer as well as by reducing the need to render previously rendered. It does this by generating a uniqueness identifier in the host computer. The Miyazaki reference does not teach or suggest the claimed uniqueness identifier. The Miyazaki "character pattern" is the pattern (generated from the outline font) that is to be printed. The Miyazaki character pattern would be most equivalent to the claimed "print job," "print page," or "print image." It does not identify the material to be printed, but is the material to be printed itself. Although the Examiner does not raise the argument, applicant would like to emphasize that the outline font, which is transferred, is not unique and is not generated. Outline fonts are simply types of fonts that use an outline of each character that is defined by a mathematical formula, making the font scalable to any size. Examples of outline fonts are PostScript fonts and TrueType fonts. If the outline font itself or information about the outline font is transferred from the Miyazaki computer to the Miyazaki printer, it is simply a static definition (common to all software using a particular font) that would be assigned, not generated.

As the application is now in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to pass the application on promptly to issue.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2115 for any additional fees which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,



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